

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SEVILL 00294 061223Z
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CA-01 /020 W
-----035456 061253Z /42

O 060950Z MAY 78 ZFF-6
FM AMCONSUL SEVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2816
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MADRID

UNCLAS SEVILLE 0294

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, SP (RALPHS, SUSAN)
SUBJECT: W/W SUSAN RALPHS

REF: STATE 115471 (NOTAL), SEVILLE 0289, SEVILLE 0291,
SEVILLE 0293 (NOTAL), FOUCHE/SCS (LARRY RIVERA) TELECON,
SCS (BELT) - MOODY TELECON

1. REGRET IT IS TOO LATE FOR SPANISH AUTHORITIES TO CONDUCT
INVESTIGATION. AS INDICATED PAR 2C SEVILLE'S 0289, SHIP WAS
TO DEPART MALAGA 1PM FRIDAY LOCAL TIME, WHICH IT DID. WHEN
WE REPORTED BY TELEPHONE TO DEPARTMENT LAST EVENING THE
NEGATIVE RESULTS OF CAPTAIN OLSEN'S FIRST SEARCH, SHIP HAD
ALREADY BEEN AT SEA SEVERAL HOURS. SHIP'S NEXT PORTS OF
CALL ARE VALLETTA, SUNDAY MAY 7 (PAR 2C SEVILLE'S 0289)
AND PIRAEUS (ATHENS), MONDAY MAY 8TH.

2. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, SHIP'S AGENT WAS GOING
TO LET MATTER RIDE PENDING THOROUGH SEARCH OF VESSEL ONCE IT PUT
TO SEA AGAIN FROM MALAGA, STATING THAT MASTER UNDER NORWEGIAN
REGULATIONS HAD THREE DAYS TO FILE HIS REPORT AND PROTEST. WE
INSISTED IN ANY CASE THAT SHIP TELEX STATUS REPORT OF MISS
RALPHS' WHEREABOUTS FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY MORNING SO WE
WOULD BE INFORMED, WHICH AGENT AND CAPTAIN AGREED TO DO. REPORT
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PAGE 02 SEVILL 00294 061223Z

THIS MORNING IS AGAIN NEGATIVE SO WE ARE NOW SENDING CASUALTY
MESSAGE TO MR. WALTER RALPHS, JR.

3. AGENT INFORMS US THAT CAPTAIN OLSEN WILL FILE PROTEST AT
AMERICAN AND NORWEGIAN EMBASSIES IN ATHENS ON MONDAY MAY 8 WHEN
VIKING SKY CALLS AT PIRAEUS. SINCE MISS RALPHS' DISAPPEARANCE
WAS NOT DEFINITELY CONFIRMED UNTIL AFTER SHIP DEPARTED MALAGA,

IT MAY BE EQUALLY APPROPRIATE TO INFORM GREEK AUTHORITIES SO
THAT INVESTIGATION MAY BE CONDUCTED WHILE SHIP IS IN PIRAEUS.
DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO PROVIDE EMBASSY ATHENS INSTRUCTION IN
THIS REGARD AS WELL AS POSSIBLE CUSTODY OF HER EFFECTS. WE
ARE THEREFORE REPEATING SEVILLE'S 0289 AND 0291 AND STATE
115471 TO ATHENS BY NIACT IMMEDIATE.FOUCHE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEVILL00294
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780193-1034
Format: TEL
From: SEVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780586/aaaacvkf.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6f5d3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 115471, 78 SEVILLE 289, 78 SEVILLE 291
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2770960
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W SUSAN RALPHS
TAGS: CASC, SP, (RALPHS, SUSAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6f5d3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014